

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please make the following amendments to paragraph 42 of the specification:

[0042] First, the active segment is shifted from the active segment (501) to the right by one waveform period. Subsequently, it is determined whether or not the right end (504) of the resulting new active segment (502) lies in the range of one latest waveform period of the buffer B. If the answer of this decision is positive, then synthetic speech data for substitution are produced by use of the active segment (502). If the answer of the above decision is negative, the active segment is further shifted to the right by another waveform period in order to repeat the same decision. Such a procedure is repeated until the right end of the shifted active segment enters one latest waveform period.